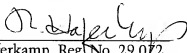


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CERTIFICATE OF E-FILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office via the EFS web on 30 Jan, 2007.

  
R. Haferkamp, Reg. No. 29,072

In re application of:	:	
Weinstock et al.	:	
	:	
Serial No.: 09/641,820	:	Examiner: Fisher, Michael J.
	:	
Filed: August 18, 2000	:	Group Art Unit: 3629
	:	
For: Web Enabled Business To Business	:	
Operating System For Rental Car Services	:	

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**Letter to Examiner Requesting Confirmation that the  
January 12, 2006 IDS Has Been Considered:**

Further to Applicant's letter filed with the USPTO on November 3, 2006 and the responsive communication from the USPTO mailed January 19, 2007, Applicant respectfully submits the following letter.

On January 12, 2006, Applicant submitted an RCE, an amendment with remarks, and two declarations to the USPTO. At the same time, in satisfaction of Applicant's duty of candor under 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98, Applicant also submitted an IDS with copies of the references listed therein for the Examiner's entry and consideration. All of these Jan. 12 filings were posted on PAIR on Jan. 17, 2006 confirming their receipt and entry into the file wrapper at the PTO, including the IDS and references. A copy of this January 12, 2006 IDS Form 1449 only

is enclosed with this letter. To comply with the guidelines set forth in MPEP §2004, paragraph 13, in the January 12, 2006 amendment/remarks and declarations, Applicant specifically commented upon the following references which were provided with and cited in the January 12, 2006 IDS to explain the patentability of the claims:

- Reference AA: "Enterprise Computer Assisted Rental System Workbook", September 1997 (see page 20 of the Amendment and Remarks filed January 12, 2006);
- Reference AE: "ARMS/400 Update", pages 1-7, January 7, 2000 (see page 20 of the Amendment and Remarks filed January 12, 2006);
- Reference AH: "ARMS Electronic Callback System Demonstration", pages 1-22, 1998 (See Declaration of W. Tingle filed January 12, 2006);
- Reference FY: "Enterprise Rent-A-Car ARMS - Vehicle Messaging System, Project Charter", October 15, 1998, pages 1-7 (see Declaration of W. Tingle filed January 12, 2006);
- Reference FZ: "GUI ARMS/400 Development", pages 1-2, 1999 (see Declaration of T. Weinstock filed January 12, 2006);
- Reference GA: "CIO Magazine 2002 Enterprise Value Awards Application", pages 4-10, 2002 (see page 20 of the Amendment and Remarks filed January 12, 2006);
- Reference GB: Weinstock, Tim, "ARMS/Web is Coming", pages 1-2, August 13, 1999 (see Declaration of T. Weinstock filed January 12, 2006);
- Reference GC: "GUI ARMS/400 Development Project Approach" (see Declaration of T. Weinstock filed January 12, 2006);
- Reference GD: "Enterprise Rent-A-Car Company ARMS - Vehicle Messaging System Overview", May 16, 2001, page 1-35 (see Declaration of W. Tingle filed January 12, 2006);
- Reference GE: "Enterprise Rent-A-Car Company ARMS - Vehicle Messaging System Phase II Project Charter", August 20, 1999, page 1-6 (see Declaration of W. Tingle filed January 12, 2006); and
- Reference GF: "Additional Internet Efforts Will Propel Every Segment of Our Business", Free Enterprise, Summer 1999, page 13 (see Declaration of W. Tingle filed January 12, 2006).

Under MPEP §609:

Once the minimum requirements of 37 CFR 1.97 and 37 CFR 1.98 are met, *the examiner has an obligation to consider the information*. There is no requirement that the information must be prior art references in order to be considered by the examiner. Consideration by the examiner of the information submitted in an IDS means nothing more than considering the documents in the same manner as other documents in Office search files are considered by the examiner while conducting a search of the prior art in a proper field of search. The initials of the examiner placed adjacent to the citations on the \*\* PTO/SB/08A and 08B or its equivalent mean that the information has been considered by the examiner to the extent noted above. (See MPEP §609 (emphasis added);

See also MPEP §609.05(b)

"The information contained in information disclosure statements which comply with both the content requirements of 37 CFR 1.98 and the requirements, based on the time of filing the statement, of 37 CFR 1.97 *will be considered by the examiner*. ... *Examiners must consider all citations submitted in conformance with the rules*, and their initials when placed adjacent to the considered citations on the list or in the boxes provided on a form \*\* PTO/SB/08A and 08B provides a clear record of which citations have been considered by the Office. The examiner must also fill in his or her name and the date the information was considered in blocks at the bottom of the \*\* PTO/SB/08A and 08B form." (emphasis added).

In view of the clear statements in MPEP §609 and §609.05(b) regarding the Examiner's obligation to consider the January 12, 2006 IDS and accompanying references, and given that the Examiner issued a Notice of Allowance following Applicant's submission of the January 12, 2006 amendment/remarks, declarations, and IDS/references, it is Applicant's expectation that the Examiner must in fact have reviewed and considered these filings, including the January 12, 2006 IDS and accompanying references.

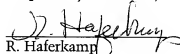
However, upon receipt of the Notice of Allowance mailed October 18, 2006, Applicant noticed that it had not received the signed Form 1449 from the USPTO confirming the Examiner's entry and consideration of the January 12, 2006 IDS and references.

Upon noticing this discrepancy, Applicant contacted the Examiner and filed the letter dated November 3, 2006 with the USPTO to request that the Examiner return a copy of the

signed/initialed Form 1449 for the January 12, 2006 IDS as required by the MPEP sections noted above. Despite this November 3, 2006 letter and repeated Applicant initiated telephone discussions with the Examiner, Applicant still has not received the signed Form 1449 confirming that the January 12, 2006 IDS and accompanying references have been entered and considered.

Despite these efforts, as of January 17, 2007 (one day prior to the final non-extensible deadline for payment of the issue fee), a signed/initialled copy of the Form 1449 for the January 12, 2006 IDS had not been posted on PAIR. To avoid abandonment of the application, Applicant paid the issue fee on January 17, 2007. Two days later, on January 19, 2007, the Examiner entered into the file and mailed to Applicant a letter that confirmed his consideration of the November 23, 2005 IDS<sup>1</sup>, but there was no reference made to the January 12, 2006 IDS despite its having been discussed in Applicant's same letter. Therefore, Applicant files this letter to repeat its respectful request that the Examiner return an initialed copy of the Form 1449 for the January 12, 2006 IDS to thereby confirm his consideration of the references cited therein.

Respectfully submitted,



R. Haferkamp  
Reg. No. 29,072

Thompson Coburn LLP  
One US Bank Plaza  
St. Louis, Missouri 63101  
(314) 552-6000 / (314) 552-7000 (fax)

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<sup>1</sup> Applicant's November 3, 2006 letter also requested that the Examiner indicate his consideration of an IDS that had previously been filed on November 23, 2005. Following a discussion with the Examiner, it was learned that the USPTO had lost its copy of the November 23, 2005 IDS. In response to this discussion with the Examiner, Applicant's November 3, 2006 correspondence with the USPTO provided a copy of the November 23, 2005 IDS together with a request for the Examiner to return an indication that both the January 12, 2006 IDS and the November 23, 2005 IDS had been considered.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
				Application Number	09/641,820
				Filing Date	August 18, 2000
				First Named Inventor	Weinstock et al.
				Art Unit	3629
				Examiner Name	Fisher, Michael J.
Sheet	1	of	15	Attorney Docket Number	1017-5616 (51017/5616)

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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OTHER PRIOR ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T <sup>2</sup>
	AA	Enterprise Computer Assisted Rental System Workbook, September 1997	
	AB	Enterprise Computer Assisted Rental System Workbook, December 1996	
	AC	Enterprise Rent-A-Car Company, ECARS Workbook, December 1996	
	AD	ECARS -- Enterprise Computer Assisted Rental System, AACJ01 Callbacks, pages 1-9, July 1, 1997	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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<sup>1</sup> EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>2</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>3</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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			Examiner Name	Fisher, Michael J.	
Sheet	2	of	15	Attorney Docket Number	1017-5616 (51017/5616)

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	AE	ARMS/400 Update, page 1-7, January 7, 2000	
	AF	Enterprise Rent-A-Car Company, Automated Rental Management System (ARMS), Version 1.1, January 5, 1994	
	AG	Enterprise Rent-A-Car Company, Automated Rental Management System (ARMS), Version 1, April 12, 1993	
	AH	ARMS Electronic Callback System Demonstration, pages 1-22, 1998	
	AI	PC/ARMS Demonstration, pages 1-45, 1995	
	AJ	ARMS/400 User Manual, 1999	
	AK	Enterprise Rent-A-Car Company, ARMS, Automated Rental Management System, pages 1-36	
	AL	1997 Rental Systems Manual, 1997	
	AM	A Call To ARMS, 1996	
	AN	AACB35 Fax Display, pages 1-5	
	AO	AACM07, Customer Add/Update, Revised Documentation, pages 1-12, September 17, 2001	
	AP	AAGP12, Group/Branch Name and Address Add/Update, pages 1 through 2-8, November 19, 1999	

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AQ	AAPW01	Update Code Maintenance, July 1, 1999, pages 1-25	
AR	ABC Insurance Company/EngineRoar,	pages 1-2	
AS	ARMS 400	Demonstration, page 1-67	
AT	ARMS Claims	Internet Quick Reference Guide, October 1999	
AU	ARMS Overview,	pages 1-10	
AV	ARMS Technology,	July 2000	
AW	ARMS/400 – Automated Rental Management System,	pages 1-8, 1995	
AX	ARMS/400 – ERAC Employee Reference,	pages 1-10	
AY	ARMS/400 Main Menu Flow,	pages 1-20	
AZ	ARMS/400 Manual		
BA	ARMS/400 Training System Document,	November 16, 1998	
BB	ARMS/400 Update,	March 15, 2000, pages 1-4	

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Examiner Name	Fisher, Michael J.				
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	BC	ARMS/400 Update, pages 1-6	
	BD	ARMS/400 User Training, July 2000, pages 1-26	
	BE	ARMS/ECARS Handbook for ARMS/Claims Developers, pages 1-19	
	BF	ARMS/Web User Training, pages 1-38, July 18, 2000	
	BG	ARMS/Web Using Jacada, October 13, 1999, pages 1-13	
	BH	Automated Rentals, Unwrapped, pages 1-7, October 1995	
	BI	Bluebird Auto Rental Systems, "Are You Buried Under An Evergrowing Mountain of Paper?"	
	BJ	Bluebird Auto Rental Systems, Business Description & Products	
	BK	Car Rental Insider, May 1997, pages 1-4	
	BL	Close Pending Ticket Report (All Tickets pended for 5 days or more), Job #579, DR0018, April 3, 1996, pages 1-2	
	BM	CST, May 6, 1999, pages 1-18	
	BN	Customer Account Services, AACB45	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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Sheet	5	of	15	Attorney Docket Number	1017-5616 (51017/5616)

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	BO	D.P. General Use Programs, AACB10 Consolidated Callback Maintenance, April 1994, pages 1-4	
	BP	D.P. General Use Programs, AACM12, ECARS – Special Instructions/Rates/Rate Rules, June 1993, pages 1-5	
	BQ	Data Warehouse & Analyzer Quick Sheet, June 2000, pages 1-2	
	BR	Dollar Rent A Car Systems, Inc., pages 1-5, 1998	
	BS	ECARS 2000 Customer Profile, Chapters 1-16	
	BT	ECARS Backdated Ticket Report, Job #043/DR0099, March 1996, pages 1-2	
	BU	eINFO, Data Warehouse, October 1999	
	BV	Email exchange between Ken Keller and David Smith, June 4, 1997	
	BW	EngineRoar.com, pages 3-76	
	BX	Enterprise Network and Physical Connections Overview, 1995, pages 1-5	
	BY	Enterprise Rent-A-Car Company, AACM27/AACM28, Overview, pages 1-8, November 22, 1999	
	BZ	Enterprise Rent-A-Car Company, ARMS Basics and Concepts, Volume 1, Chapter 1-4, February 24, 1998	

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Sheet	6	of	15	Attorney Docket Number	1017-5616 (51017/5616)

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	CA	Enterprise Rent-A-Car Company, ARMS Basics and Concepts, Volume 1, Chapters 1-4, June 10, 1998	
	CB	Enterprise Rent-A-Car Company, ARMS Technical Document (ATD Internal), pages 1-40, August 2, 1993	
	CC	Enterprise Rent-A-Car Company, Functional Specification, pages 1-2, November 1999	
	CD	Enterprise Rent-A-Car Customer Profile Data Form, pages 1-14	
	CE	Enterprise Rent-A-Car, ARMS Online Reporting, Project Charter, Version 1.0, August 20, 1999, pages 1-7	
	CF	Everything You Need to Know About ARMS Automotive, 2000, pages 1-8	
	CG	Future State Summary, June 1999, pages 1-8	
	CH	<a href="http://www.eautoclaims.com">http://www.eautoclaims.com</a> , pages 1-11, April 8, 2000	
	CI	<a href="http://www.hertz.com/InteractionRes/htm/ixexckge.htm">http://www.hertz.com/InteractionRes/htm/ixexckge.htm</a> , pages 1-2, March 20, 1997	
	CJ	Introducing ARMS Claims, June 2000, pages 1-6	
	CK	IS General Use Programs -- Section 15, AACB40, Overview, pages 1-16, June 22, 2000	
	CL	IS General Use Programs -- Section 19, AACB34 Callback Fax Customization, March 5, 1998	

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Sheet	7	of	15	Attorney Docket Number	1017-5616 (51017/5616)

OTHER PRIOR ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
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	CM	Jacada Implementation Methodology, pages 1-10, May 12, 1999	
	CN	Jacada, Chicago Executive Briefing, November 4, 1999, pages 1-13	
	CO	Kenyon, Stephanie, "20 Tips for an Effective Web Site", ASTA Agency Management, January 1999	
	CP	Lone Star Rental Systems, EZ Traker™, Your Complete Auto Rental Management Solution	
	CQ	Lorentz, Jeff, Functional Specification, Internet Application Development, ARMS Automotive, pages 1-3	
	CR	Marino, Donna, "Internet Experts Urge Development of E-Commerce Models", ASTA Agency Management, January 1999, pages 32-34	
	CS	McKeown, Rosemary, "The Right Computer System Adds to Your Revenue", Computer Systems, pages 1-4	
	CT	Memorandum re Sabre Meeting, Rob Hibbard to Scott Shuler, September 21, 1998	
	CU	Milligan, Michael, "OTA targets mid-January to release e-commerce protocol", Travel Weekly, January 10, 2000	
	CV	Net rentacar.com User Guide, pages 1-19	
	CW	Open Travel Alliance, "ebXML Uses Opentravel Alliance Specification for Early Tests", May 10, 2000	
	CX	Open Travel Alliance, "Open Travel Alliance Joins Forces with DISA", September 9, 1999	

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	CY	Open Travel Alliance, "Open Travel Alliance Names Board Officers", September 2, 1999	
	CZ	Open Travel Alliance, "OpenTravel Alliance's New XML Specification Creates a Common Customer Profile for Travelers", February 29, 2000	
	DA	Open Travel Alliance, "White Paper", pages 1-20, February 2000	
	DB	Orion Systems, Ltd., pages 1-36	
	DC	Orion Systems, Ltd., System Overview and Handheld Terminals, downloaded from www.orsys.com on December 1, 1997, pages 1-5	
	DD	Orion Systems, Ltd., System Overview with Screens and Reports, May 1996	
	DE	Our Packages Come in All Sizes!, November 1999, pages 1-2	
	DF	PGMR, ECARS -- Enterprise Computer Assisted Rental System, pages 1-4	
	DG	Preview Travel, Inc., Car Reservations, 1999	
	DH	Rental 101, pages 1-30	
	DI	Rental Redesign Requirements -- Contract Process, pages 1-5, February 16, 2000	
	DJ	Rental Redesign Requirements Contract, pages 1-56, February 15, 2000	

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				<b>Application Number</b>	09/641,820
				<b>Filing Date</b>	August 18, 2000
				<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Weinstock et al.
				<b>Group Art Unit</b>	3629
				<b>Examiner Name</b>	Fisher, Michael J.
<b>Sheet</b>	9	<b>of</b>	15	<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	1017-5616 (51017/5616)

OTHER PRIOR ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS				
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	DK	Rental Redesign, Rental Management, RMS (Rental Management Services), September 30, 1998, pages 1-2		
	DL	Rosen, Cheryl, "OTA Debuts Data Protocol", Business Travel News, January 10, 2000		
	DM	Rosen, Cheryl, "OTA Publishes XML Data Standard", Business Travel News, pages 1-2, March 20, 2000		
	DN	The ARMS Connection, Safeco/Enterprise Rent-A-Car, pages 1-4		
	DO	The Connection, State Farm Insurance/Enterprise Rent-A-Car, Rental Process Automation and Procedures, pages 1-3		
	DP	The Hertz Corporation, 1998		
	DQ	TSD Brochure, "Are You Comparing Apples to Apples When Choosing Rental Software", page 1-3		
	DR	TSD Brochure, RENT 2000 from TSD, Rental Management Software, Revolutionize the Way You Do Business, Page 1-29		
	DS	TSD Brochure, Rent 2000 from TSD, Rental Management Software, Revolutionize the Way You Do Business with the Proven Solution, page 1-2		
	DT	Wamer, Fara, "Car Race in Cyberspace"		
	DU	Welcome to ARMS/400, New York State Rollout and Implementation Session, October 28, 1999, pages 1-51		
	DV	Welcome to the Data Warehouse, June 2000, pages 1-2		

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	DW	Interactions, Volume 1, Number 3, July 1992	
	DX	Interactions, Special Edition, Volume 1, Number 4, August 1992	
	DY	Interactions, Volume 1, Number 5, September 1992	
	DZ	Interactions, Special Edition, November 1992	
	EA	Interactions, Volume 1, Number 8, December 1992	
	EB	Interactions, Volume 2, Number 1, January 1993	
	EC	Interactions, Volume 2, Number 5, May 1993	
	ED	Interactions, Volume 2, Number 7, July 1993	
	EE	Interactions, Volume 2, Number 8, August 1993	
	EF	Interactions, Volume 2, Number 11, October 1, 1993	
	EG	Interactions, Volume 2, Number 13, November 1, 1993	
	EH	Interactions, Volume 2, Number 14, November 15, 1993	

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	EI	Interactions, Published especially for our Farmers adjusters, 1994	
	EJ	Interactions, Volume 3, Number 1, January 1, 1994	
	EK	Interactions, Volume 3, Number 1, January 15, 1994	
	EL	Interactions, ARMS, Volume 3, Number 6, March 15, 1994	
	EM	Interactions, Volume 3, Number 8, April 15, 1994	
	EN	Interactions, Volume 3, Number 10, May 15, 1994	
	EO	Interactions, Volume 3, Number 11, June 1, 1994	
	EP	Interactions, Volume 3, Number 12, June 15, 1994	
	EQ	Interactions, Volume 3, Number 14, July 15, 1994	
	ER	Interactions, Volume 3, Number 15, August 1, 1994	
	ES	Interactions, Volume 3, Number 16, August 15, 1994	
	ET	Interactions, Volume 3, Number 21, November 1, 1994	

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Examiner Name	Fisher, Michael J.				
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	EU	Interactions, Volume 3, Number 23, December 1, 1994	
	EV	Interactions, Volume 4, Number 3, February 1, 1995	
	EW	Interactions, "Electronic Connections", page 3, March 15, 1995	
	EX	Interactions, Volume 4, Number 6, March 15, 1995	
	EY	Interactions, Volume 4, Number 9, May 1, 1995	
	EZ	Interactions, Volume 4, Issue 14, July 15, 1995	
	FA	Interactions, Volume 4, Issue 16, August 15, 1995	
	FB	Interactions, Volume 4, Issue 19, October 1, 1995	
	FC	Interactions, Volume 4, Issue 21, November 1, 1995	
	FD	Interactions, Volume 4, Issue 24, December 15, 1995	
	FE	Interactions, Volume 5, Issue 1, January 1, 1996	
	FF	Interactions, Volume 5, Issue 2, January 15, 1996	

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	FG	Interactions, Volume 5, Issue 4, February 15, 1996	
	FH	Interactions, Volume 5, Issue 13, October 1, 1996	
	FI	Interactions, Volume 5, Issue 14, November 1, 1996	
	FJ	Interactions, ARMS Update, Volume 6, Issue 2, February 1997	
	FK	Interactions, Volume 6, Issue 8, August 1997	
	FL	Interactions, Volume 6, Issue 12, December 1997	
	FM	Interactions, Volume 7, Issue 1, January 1998	
	FN	Interactions, Volume 7, Issue 5, May 1998	
	FO	Interactions, Volume 7, Issue 7, July 1998	
	FP	Interactions, Volume 7, Issue 8, August 1998	
	FQ	Interactions, Volume 7, Issue 12, December 1998	
	FR	Interactions, Volume 8, Issue 7, July 1999	

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	FS	Interactions, Volume 8, Issue 8, August 1999	
	FT	Interactions, Volume 8, Issue 9, September 1999	
	FU	Interactions, Volume 9, Issue 2, February 2000	
	FV	Interactions, Volume 9, Issue 3, March 2000	
	FW	Interactions, Volume 9, Issue 5, May 2000	
	FX	Internet Networking Architecture, 1999	
	FY	Enterprise Rent-A-Car ARMS - Vehicle Messaging System, Project Charter, October 15, 1998, pages 1-7	
	FZ	GUI ARMS/400 Development, pages 1-2, 1999	
	GA	CIO Magazine 2002 Enterprise Value Awards Application, pages 4-10, 2002	
	GB	Weinstock, Tim, ARMS/Web is Coming, pages 1-2, August 13, 1999	
	GC	GUI ARMS/400 Development Project Approach,	
	GD	Enterprise Rent-A-Car Company ARMS - Vehicle Messaging System Overview, May 16, 2001, page 1-35	

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